

Debate Assignment

Central Question - Does the United States have a class system similar to India's caste system?

How will each side prove their point?

In order to prove your overall point, you will need to show that there are or are not certain roles or places that people are "forced" into, or that people are or are not treated differently based upon conditions they largely cannot control.

Debate Roles

Opening Statement (2)

- Clearly state your team's position
- Layout a preview of the points your team will make
 - This means you have to understand ALL the arguments your team will be making
- Use visual, descriptive language
- Tell a story that: makes your point seem very strong, introduces your overall argument

Closing Statement (2)

- Summarize the main points your team made
 - Add specifics to each point
- Critique your opponents' positions (give specifics why they are not correct)
- Give the jury solid reasons to vote for your side
- Let the jury know what it would mean if they did not vote for your side (peer into the future)

Arguer (10)

- Clearly state your argument
- Give specific supporting details to justify your reasons
- Address counter arguments the other side might make
- Use visual aides and examples to help make your point more effective



There is a caste system in America

These items are to guide your research. Do not simply answer them and use that for your debate. For instance, think not only of the answer by why the items below are important to think about.

Sporting Events

- Differences in: purchasing a ticket, seating, overall experience, extras available
 - Purchasing a ticket
 - Seating
 - Overall experience
 - Extras available

Financial situation you are born into

- Cost of necessities of life
- Cost of education
- Personal tutor
- Financial benefit of college degree

Politics

- Commonalities of US Presidents
- Composition of US Senate
- Relationship between \$\$ and running for political office

Healthcare

- Cost of medical treatments and medicines for common ailments with and without medical insurance
- Cost of emergency room trip with and without medical insurance
- Process of obtaining medical insurance
- Cost of insurance with and without a full-time job

Celebrity

- Special treatment of celebrities: hotels, games, restaurants, police officers
- Leisure activities of celebrities vs. average American
- Special treatment of celebrities in legal issues

Wildcard

- This category is available to students who would like to think outside the box. The general category will need approval from Mr. Vogt, however, the opposing side will not have any idea what these arguments will be until the day of the debate.

These items are to guide your research. Do not simply answer them and use that for your debate. For instance, think not only of the answer but why the items below are important to think about.

There is not a caste system in America – Arguer

Sporting Events

- Similarities of game experience between average American and the rich
- Role of ticket agencies such as StubHub.com
- Role of radio station giveaways
- Television's role in creating equality.

Financial situation you are born into

- Rags to riches stories
- Rights of Americans that encourage moving up on society
- Laws that prevent earning money/moving up?
- College scholarships, grants

Politics

- US government represents a "typical" American?
- Requirements to vote in local, state and presidential elections
- Accessible methods of expressing your political opinion

Healthcare

- Personal and family healthcare through employment
- Emergency room policies no payment
- Eligibility to obtain healthcare at a particular business?
- History of healthcare coverage in America

Celebrity

- Similarities of celebrity and average American experience at various venues such as hotels or restaurants
- Similarities of celebrity and average American experience in fashion, shopping, legal rights
 - Fashion
 - Restaurants

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State Standards/Grading

B.8.4 Explain how and why events may be interpreted differently depending upon perspective

- 10: Explains perspective in an in-depth manner. The audience is not left with any questions about the material.
- 9: Explains perspective in an in-depth manner, however, the audience is left with questions due to the clarity of the explanation.
- 8: Explains perspective but leaves significant information out, and the audience has major questions due to the clarity of the argument.
- 7: Does not explain perspective or why an event is viewed in a particular manner.

B.8.5 Use evidence to determine and support a position about important values, such as freedom and equality, and express the position clearly

- 10: Uses significant and relevant evidence to support their position. The supporting details relate directly to the argument.
- 9: Uses significant information, yet the relevancy or supporting details are lacking connection to the argument.
- 8: Evidence is not significant and does not connect to support the argument.
- 7: Evidence is not used to support the argument.

C.8.7 Locate, organize, and use relevant information to understand an issue of public concern, take a position, and argue the position in a debate

- 10: Position is very apparent and supported by information that relates directly to argument.
- 9: Position is apparent, but is not supported by information that relates directly to argument.
- 8: Position is not apparent, or, information does not relate directly to argument.
- 7: Position is not apparent and is not supported by information that relates direction to argument.

Comments: _____
